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Mr. Yung-lung Tseng
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August 7, 2006

Ms. Camtu T. Nguyen
Examiner
Art Unit 3743
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: Application Number 10/814,033

Dear Ms. Nguyen,

I am writing in response to the recent Office Action Summary dated May 16, 2006 concerning the above application. Below I set forth my responses to such Office Action Summary.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102:

Claims 1-8, 11-13, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Brewer (U.S. Patent No. D272,754).

Reponses:

After reviewing Brewer (U.S. Patent No. D272,754), many critical differences between the above patent application and Brewer's patent have been observed. First of all, Brewer used hooks and looped pile material such as VELCRO® to secure the ring while the above patent application used self-adhering material such as Coban®. Secondly, Brewer applied a similar design as Band-Aid® with shorter strip as inner strip (see Fig. 6 of U.S. Patent No. D272,754) which is entirely opposite to the above patent application. Thirdly, the inner **long** strip of the above patent application is stretchable while Brewer's inner **short** strip appears not stretchable. Finally, the outer **short** strip of the above patent application provides cushion and grip control while Brewer's outer **long** strip appears to be used to hold the inner **short** strip. They are functionally distinguishable. Therefore, it can be concluded that both the spirit and scope between the above patent application and Brewer (U.S. Patent No. D272,754) are completely different.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 103:


Claims 1-8, 11-13, and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Young (U.S. Patent No. 6,865,748).

Reponses:

After reviewing Young (U.S. Patent No. 6,865,748), many critical differences between the above patent application and Young's patent have also been observed. First of all, Young's patent comprises one layer, elongated **trapezoidal** strap with one end **narrower** than the other end in **width** while the above patent application is regular **rectangular** in shape with outer layer **shorter** than the inner layer in **length**. Secondly, Young's patent secured the end segments by using hooks and looped pile material such as VELCRO® or by stitches while the above patent application secured the end segments around the finger by the outer strip with self-adhering property. Thirdly, the above patent application has second strip which is shorter than inner strip in length and is located at the middle of the inner strip while Young's patent has no second strip. Therefore, it can be concluded that both the spirit and scope between the above patent application and Young (U.S. Patent No. 6,865,748) are completely different.

Thank you for your assistance in the above patent application.

Sincerely,



Mr. Yung-lung Tseng